

## Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## FWP to gather ideas on plans for Cooney State Park

**BILLINGS** — Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks will hold two meetings this week to kick off planning for the future of Cooney State Park.

The first meeting is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 18, at the FWP regional headquarters at 2300 Lake Elmo Dr. in Billings Heights. The second meeting is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, at the Roberts Fire Hall in Roberts.

Cooney State Park Manager Jennifer Alexander said, "we are starting a management plan process which will guide visitor service, recreation opportunities, resource conservation, education, operations and maintenance efforts over the next 10 years."

The meetings are designed to gather suggestions and comments on what issues FWP should consider in the long-term plan. Those who cannot attend may submit emailed thoughts to Alexander at <a href="mailto:jalexander@mt.gov">jalexander@mt.gov</a> or written comments to 2300 Lake Elmo Dr., Billings, MT 59105.

Parks staff intends to draft a plan by the end of the year with public comment and meetings set for spring 2011.

Cooney State Park comprises 309 acres along the shores of Cooney Reservoir west of Boyd. It is open year-around and offers opportunities for boating, camping, fishing and cross-country skiing.